

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DPW-01 IO-13 AID-05 DHA-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ORM-02 EB-07 OMB-01

COME-00 /099 W

----- 042751

R 171102Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3478

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC

AMCONSUL UDORN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 26026

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PBOR LA TH

SUBJ: REOPENING OF MUKDAHAN-SAVANNAKHET BORDER POINT

REF: VIENTIANE 2238

1. PRIME MINISTER SENI PRAMOT, IN HIS CAPACITY AS INTERIOR MINISTER, SIGNED ORDER TO OPEN BORDER POINT WITH LAOS AT MUKDAHAN SEPTEMBER 16, WITH SUBORDINATE OFFICIAL SIGNING IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS DURING EMBOFF'S VISIT TO MINISTRY FOLLOWING DAY. OPENING SHOULD TAKE PLACE IMMEDIATELY, IF NOT SOONER (RETEL). ALTHOUGH TRADE WILL PRESUMABLY BE UNCONTROLLED, MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE WILL BE VERY CAREFULLY CONTROLLED, ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL. OPENING OF MUKDAHAN REPRESENTS AT LEAST SMALL FORWARD STEP IN LAO-THAI RAPPROACHMENT, IN OUR VIEW.

2. QUESTION OF RELEASE OF THAI PRISONERS IN LAOS IS LESS CLEAR. MFA SOURCE NOTED THAT LAO FOREIGN MINISTER PHOUNE  
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SIPRASEUTH TOLD THAI AMBASSADOR SAWET KAMONLAPHUTI THAT PDRL

WOULD GIVE RTG "EVERYTHING IT PROMISED" DURING FOREIGN MINISTER  
PHICHAI RATTAKUN'S JULY 31-AUGUST 3  
VISIT. MFA OFFICIAL NOTED THAT LAO CONTINUE TO REPLY  
THAT THEY ARE PREPARING LISTS OF PRISONERS TO GIVE THE  
THAI BUT HAVE PRODUCED NONE TO DATE. HE SAID MFA SENT MESSAGE  
TO AMBASSADOR SAWET TELLING HIM TO GIG THE LAO ON THIS MATTER,  
AT SAME TIME ADVISING THAT MUKDAHAN WOULD BE OPEN  
"APPROXIMATELY" SEPTEMBER 15. INTERIOR OFFICIAL SAID RTG EXPECTS  
THAT LAO WILL HAND OVER UNKNOWN NUMBER OF THAI PRISONERS AT  
NONG KHAI ONCE MUKDAHAN IS REOPENED. PLANS CALL FOR PRISONERS  
THEN TO BE INTERROGATED TO MAKE CERTAIN THEY ARE ALL THAI.

3. TIMING OF OPENING OF SECOND BORDER POINT -- PROBABLY CHIANG  
KHAN IN LOEI PROVINCE -- IS NOT YET CLEAR.  
BURKE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BORDER CONTROLS, BORDER GUARDS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BANGKO26026  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760352-0849  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REOPENING OF MUKDAHAN-SAVANNAKHET BORDER POINT  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PBOR, LA, TH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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